NUMB. CCCCXCVI.

The SPECTATOR.

Gnatum pariter uti his decuit aut etiam amplius
Quod illa ætas magis ad hæc utenda idonea eſt.
Terent. Heaut. A. 1. Sc. 1.

Monday, September 29. 1712.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'THOSE Ancients who were the moſt 'accurate in their Remarks on the 'Genius and Temper of Mankind, by 'conſidering the various Bent and 'Scope of our Actions throughout the Progreſs of 'Life, have with great Exactneſs allotted Inclina-'tions and Objects of Deſire particular to every 'Stage, according to the different Circumſtances 'of our Converſation and Fortune, thro' the ſe-'veral Periods of it. Hence they were diſpoſed 'eaſily to excuſe thoſe Exceſſes which might poſ-'ſibly ariſe from a too eager Purſuit of the Affecti-'ons more immediately proper to each State: 'They indulged the Levity of Childhood with 'Tenderneſs, overlooked the Gayety of Youth 'with good Nature, tempered the forward Ambi-'tion and Impatience of ripened Manhood with 'Diſcretion, and kindly imputed the tenacious A-'varice of old Men to their want of Reliſh for a-'ny other Enjoyment. Such Allowances as theſe 'were no leſs advantagious to common Society 'than obliging to particular Perſons; for by 'maintaining a Decency and Regularity in the 'Courſe of Life, they ſupported the Dignity of 'humane Nature, which then ſuffers the greateſt 'Violence when the Order of things is inverted; 'and in nothing is it more remarkably villified and 'ridiculous, than when Feebleneſs prepoſterouſly 'attempts to adorn it ſelf with that outward Pomp 'and Luſtre which ſerve only to ſet off the Bloom 'of Youth with better Advantage. I was inſenſi-'bly carried into Reflections of this Nature, by 'juſt now meeting *Paulino* (who is in his Climacte-'rick) bedeck'd with the utmoſt Splendour of 'Dreſs and Equipage, and giving an unbounded 'Looſe to all Manner of Pleaſure, whilſt his only 'Son is debarr'd all innocent Diverſion, and may 'be ſeen frequently ſolacing himſelf in the *Mall*, 'with no other Attendance than one antiquated 'Servant of his Father's for a Companion and Di-'rector.

'It is a monſtrous Want of Reflection, that a 'Man cannot conſider that when he cannot reſign 'the Pleaſures of Life in his Decay of Appetite 'and Inclination to them, his Son muſt have a 'much uneaſier Taſk to reſiſt the Impetuoſity of 'growing Deſires. The Skill therefore ſhould 'methinks be, to let a Son want no lawful Diverſi-'on, in proportion to his future Fortune, and the 'Figure he is to make in the World. The firſt 'Step towards Virtue that I have obſerved in 'young Men of Condition that have run into 'Exceſſes, has been that they had a Regard to 'their Quality and Reputation in the Management 'of their Vices. Narrowneſs in their Circum-'cumſtances has made many Youths to ſupply them-'ſelves as Debauchees, commence Cheats and Ra-'ſcals. The Father who allows his Son to his ut-'moſt Ability avoids this latter Evil, which as to 'the World is much greater than the former. But 'the contrary Practice has prevail'd ſo much among 'ſome Men, that I have known them deny them 'what was meerly neceſſary for Education ſuitable 'to their Quality. Poor young *Antonio* is a lamenta-'ble Inſtance of ill Conduct in this Kind. The 'young Man did not want natural Talents; but the 'Father of him was a Coxcomb, who affected be-'ing a fine Gentleman ſo unmercifully, that he 'could not endure in his Sight, or the frequent

'Mention

'Mention of one, who was his Son growing into 'Manhood, and thruſting him out of the gay 'World. I have often thought the Father took 'a ſecret Pleaſure in reflecting, that when that fine 'Houſe and Seat came into the next Hands, it 'would revive his Memory, as a Perſon who knew 'how to enjoy them, from Obſervation of the Ru-'ſticity and Ignorance of his Succeſſor. Certain 'it is, that a Man may, if he will, let his Heart 'cloſe to the having no Regard to any thing but 'his dear Self, even with Excluſion of his very 'Children. I recommend this Subject to your 'Conſideration, and am,

SIR,

Your moſt humble Servant,

T. B.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

London, Sept. 26. 1712.

'I Am juſt come from *Tunbridge*, and have ſince 'my Return read Mrs. *Matilda Mohair*'s Let-'ter to you: She pretends to make a mighty Story 'about the Diverſion of ſwinging in that Place. 'What was done, was only among Relations; and 'no Man ſwung any Woman who was not ſecond 'Couſin at fartheſt. She is pleaſed to ſay, Care 'was taken that the Gallants tied the Ladies Legs 'before they were wafted into the Air. Since ſhe 'is ſo ſpiteful I'll tell you the plain Truth; there 'was no ſuch Nicety obſerved, ſince we were all, 'as I juſt now told you, near Relations; but 'Mrs. *Mohair* her ſelf has been ſwung there, and 'ſhe invents all this Malice becauſe it was obſerved 'ſhe has crooked Legs, of which I was an Eye-'Witneſs.

Your humble Servant,

Rachel Shooeſtring.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

Tunbridge, Sept. 26. 1712.

'WE have juſt now read your Paper con-'taining Mrs. *Mohair*'s Letter. It is an In-'vention of her own from one End to the other; 'and I deſire you would print the enclоſed Letter 'by it ſelf, and ſhorten it ſo as to come within 'the Compaſs of your Half-Sheet. She is the 'moſt malicious Minx in the World, for all ſhe 'looks ſo ſhnocent. Don't leave out that Part about 'her being in Love with her Father's Butler, 'which makes her ſhun Men; for that is the 'trueſt of it all.

Your Humble Servant,

Sarah Trice.

P. S. 'She has crooked Legs.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

Tunbridge, Sept. 26. 1712.

'ALL that Mrs. *Mohair* is ſo vex'd at againſt the 'good Company of this Place is, that we all 'know ſhe has crooked Legs. This is certainly 'true. I don't care for putting my Name, becauſe 'one would not be in the Power of the Crea-'ture.

Your Humble Servant unknown.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

Tunbridge, Sept. 26. 1712.

'THAT inſufferable Prude Mrs. *Mohair*, who has 'told ſuch Stories of the Company here, is 'with Child, for all her nice Airs and her crooked 'Legs. Pray be ſure to put her in for both thoſe 'two Things, and you'll oblige every Body here, 'eſpecially

Your humble Servant,

Alice Bluegarter.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre-Royal in Drury-Lane, to Morrow, being Tueſday the 30th of September, will be preſented a Comedy, call'd, The Recruiting Officer. The Part of Capt. Plume by Mr. Wilks, Serjeant Kite by Mr. Pack, Juſtice Ballance by Mr. Keene, Worthy by Mr. Mills, Capt. Brazen by Mr. Cibber, Two Recruits by Mr. Norris and Mr. Bullock jun. Melinda by Mrs. Rogers, Silvia by Mrs. Bicknell, Roſe by Miſs Younger. By Her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

Is continued to be Sold, neat French Brandy, full proof, and of true flavour, for 94 l. by the Tun, and at 9 s. a Gallon for any Quantity leſs than half a Hogſhead: At the Black Lyon over-againſt Mercer's Chappel in Cheapſide, where conſtant Attendance will be given.

The Carminative or Wind-expelling Lozenges; the prettieſt and moſt delightful Medicine for that purpoſe in the World, are exceeding pleaſant to taſte, breaks away Wind pent up in the Stomach and Bowels, that cauſe ſick Qualms, Dizzineſs in the Head, &c. One put into the Mouth in a Morning keeps Wind out of the Stomach, and exceeds all the Cordial Drams whatſoever: They diſpel Vapours, Stitches, Gripings, &c. rectifie the Digeſtions, cure Heartburn, purifie the Blood, make the Head eaſy and whole Body ſightſome. Are ſold for 2 s. 6 d. a Box with Directions, at the Golden Key in Warton's-Court near Holborn-Bars.

Famous Drops for Hypocondriack Melancholly: Which effectually cure on the ſpot, by rectifying the Stomach and Blood, cleanſing them from all Impurities, and giving a new Turn to their Ferment, attenuating all viſcous tenacious Humours (which make the Head heavy, clog the Spirits, confuſe the Mind, and cauſe the deepeſt Melancholly, with direful Views and black Reflections) comforting the Brain and Nerves, compoſing the hurried Thoughts and introducing bright lively Ideas and pleaſant Briſkneſs, inſtead of diſmal Apprehenſions and dark Incumbrance of the Soul, ſetting the Intellectuals at Liberty to act with Courage, Serenity and ſteady Chearfulneſs, and cauſing a viſible diffuſive Joy to reign in the Room of uneaſy Doubts, Fears, &c. for which they may be truly eſteem'd infallible. Price 3 s. 6 d. a Bottle, with Directions. Sold only at Mr. Bell's Bookſeller at the Croſs-Keys and Bible in Cornhill near the Royal-Exchange.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in; as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.

T